

REPORT OF ACTIVITIES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

George T. Qualley
Acting Chief
Division of Flood Management
Department of Water Resources
The Resources Agency
State of California*

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LEVEE REPAIRS BRANCH

Critical Erosion Repairs Program

Sacramento River Flood Protection Critical Repair Sites

All structural and environmental on-site mitigation work for 2005 and 2006 identified critical sites except two sites on Cache Creek has been completed. The regulatory agencies biological opinion requires that these repaired sites be monitored for use by fish species and success of planted vegetation. The Department of Water Resources (DWR) and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineering (Corps) have retained H. T. Harvey Associates for this biological monitoring.

The Corps is the lead agency for critical sites identified in 2007 based on field reconnaissance report of Bank Erosion Sites and Site Priority Ranking Report for the Sacramento River Flood Control Levees, Tributaries and Distributaries dated December 18, 2007. Based on available federal funding, all 17 erosion repair sites totaling about 10,000 linear feet may not be repaired in 2008 and some of these sites will end up in 2009 construction year. Initial planning for engineering design and permits for possible construction is underway.

Negotiations with the land owners for the two Cache Creek setback sites are continuing and initiation of repair work depends upon success of the negotiations.

San Joaquin River Flood Protection Critical Repair Sites

Based on the December, 2007 DWR San Joaquin River System Levee Repair Site Prioritization Report, initial field geotechnical and surveying investigations are in progress for the identified four areas of critical nature. Two of these areas have major seepage problems along two reaches on the San Joaquin River in the vicinity of RD 404, and Chowchilla Bypass in Lower San Joaquin Levee District. The other two critical sites are on Paradise Cut (levee mile 3.8) and Mormon Slough (levee mile 33.0).

2006 Public Law (PL) 84-99 Rehabilitation Assistance Program

The Corps and DWR have repaired 53 flood damaged sites to date. During the last two months, the Corps has completed engineering design for 15 additional Order 3, 4 and 5 sites.

In all, there are an additional six Order 2 sites in RD 150; 22 sites in RD 2098 as well as 133 Order 3, 4 and 5 sites for which repairs would be undertaken in 2008 and 2009 summer and fall. To minimize further damage to these unrepaired sites, flood fighting plans are in place. The Corps is lead agency for PL 84-99 repairs and DWR is providing environmental permitting, rights-of-way and borrow materials for these sites.

LEEVE EVALUATIONS BRANCH

The Levee Evaluations Branch was created to perform geotechnical levee evaluations on about 350 miles of urban levee. An urban levee is defined as protecting at least 10,000 people. The geotechnical levee evaluations will focus on the urban project levees in geographic areas of Reclamation District (RD) 17, Natomas, West Sacramento, Marysville, Woodland, Davis, Stockton, MA9, the American River, Sacramento, the Sutter Basin, and RD 784. This program is in the process of expanding to other areas within the Sacramento and San Joaquin Flood Control System with the Bond funding.

The purpose of these evaluations is to assist in developing a levee certification program based on geotechnical data, provide consistent formats for data (and associated data exchange), and provide an evaluation of the levee system based on geotechnical data. This evaluation will be conducted with the goal of providing 200 year level of protection in urban areas and the design profile level of protection in rural areas using the Corps underseepage criteria.

The following activities occurred during the past month:

1. Drilling is occurring in Stockton, West Sacramento, RD 404, and RD 17. A week of drilling was temporarily suspended due to recent storms.
2. Drilling planned for February 2008 in RD 17, Sacramento (between the American River and Freeport), West Sacramento, the American River, and starting in Davis.
3. Phase 1 Geotechnical Evaluation Reports for Marysville and West Sacramento have been released to local stakeholders. This same report for RD 17 will be released in February 2008. These reports summarize data collected, geomorphology, and levee crown borings and inform users of where data gaps exist.
4. The DWR is currently working on all the urban areas now in varying degrees of effort, including starting work in the last remaining urban areas of Davis and Woodland.
5. A presentation was made about Levee Evaluations at the January meeting of the Society for Marketing Professional Services in Sacramento. This presentation was requested by this organization to give an overview of the efforts of the Department with regards to geotechnical investigations of the urban State/federal project levees.

6. The bathymetric survey of the urban areas of the Sacramento, San Joaquin, lower Calaveras, and lower American Rivers began on December 3, 2007. This survey was completed in January 2008. The data from this survey is in the process of being reduced and the first results will be for the Sacramento River in late February 2008. Data generated from this survey will allow three dimensional visualizations of the ground surface beneath water and aid in the generation of cross-sections for analyses and identification of areas of scour.
7. A Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for two up-to \$60 million contracts to perform mostly non-urban levee evaluations has been tentatively awarded to URS and Kleinfelder and Associates. The contracts are still in the rate negotiation phase. These contracts are anticipated to be in effect around April 2008, pending negotiations and Department of General Services' approval. Additional interviews of the remaining contractors for a quality assurance/quality control portion of the RFQ occurred on December 14, 2007 with a tentative award anticipated in mid January 2008.
8. The Levee Evaluations Branch is working closely with the City of West Sacramento, RD 17, Three Rivers, LD 1, others within the Department and the Corps to review issues concerning early implementation projects.
9. The Marysville and RD 17 Phase 1 Geotechnical Evaluation reports will be issued in January or February, 2008.
10. The Sutter Phase 1 Geotechnical Evaluation Report will be issued in April 2008.
11. Weekly coordination meetings with the Corps continue so that subsurface explorations plans are approved in advance of work and also so as to not duplicate efforts.
12. Efforts are being made to accelerate work in Natomas. In addition, geotechnical data will be turned over to support local and Corps efforts in early February 2008.
13. The Levee Evaluations Branch is continuing to assist the Floodplain Mapping Office with evaluating rates and scope of services for the geotechnical portion of their four Central Valley mapping contracts.
14. Levee Evaluations has been meeting with local stakeholders and their consultants concerning non-project urban levees in the greater Stockton area, West Sacramento, and Woodland and the role the State would have in evaluating these areas.

15. If the board is interested in specific detail concerning schedule and deliverables, levee evaluation staff will make a presentation concerning the program and answer additional questions that the board may have.

MAINTENANCE SUPPORT BRANCH

Garmire Road Bridge Replacement

Sutter County awarded the bridge construction contract to MCM Construction on January 30, 2008. MCM Construction was the winning bidder with the low bid of \$6.4 million. Due to the current market conditions the bid came in lower than expected and additional federal funding that was being pursued is no longer needed. The contractor is expected to sign the contract by February 8, 2008 and construction of the new bridge is anticipated to start in May, 2008. A preconstruction meeting will be held on February 8, 2008 with the contractor MCM, the construction manager Vali Cooper and Associates, Sutter County and DWR. The project should be completed by November, 2009.

Mitigation for Tisdale Bypass at Colusa

Design work in cooperation with DOE and DES is on-going. There are no significant changes in status to report.

FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT BRANCH

DWR has signed the four regional floodplain evaluation and delineation contracts on February 28, 2008. These A and E contracts will assist DWR on a regional basis to carry out the Central Valley Floodplain Evaluation and Delineation Program over the next five years.

The contracts were awarded to CH2M-Hill for the Upper Sacramento region, Wood-Rodgers for the Lower Sacramento region, HDR for the Lower San Joaquin region and RBF for the Upper San Joaquin region.

The first task order has been issued to begin the scoping process.

DWR has selected PBS&J to be the new management support for project management of the Central Valley Floodplain mapping studies and statewide floodplain management support. This contract is under negotiation and should be finalized within 60 days.

FLOOD PROJECT MODIFICATIONS AND PERMIT BRANCH

EIP Grant Program

DWR forwarded the draft Early Implementation Project (EIP) Funding and O&M agreement templates to the applicant agencies on Monday, December 3, 2007 in order for them to become familiar with the requirements contained in the agreements. Several meetings took place, applicant comments and requests were considered and incorporated to the extent possible. The final templates were transmitted back to the applicant agencies on January 25, 2008. Several of the applicants had also submitted updated financial information based on the terms contained in the agreements. DWR has completed its review of this updated information and expects to convey its formal approval of \$215 million in EIP to the applicant agencies as soon as practical after findings have been made pursuant to Senate Bill 5 and CEQA.

During a press conference February 6, 2008, Governor Schwarzenegger announced that DWR is ready to fund four high priority early implementation projects with Proposition 1E funds. The press release is attached.

NOTE: In order to provide more timely information, "WATER CONDITIONS" will be forwarded separately a few days before the February 15th Board meeting.



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Fact Sheet

Governor Expedites \$211 Million In Infrastructure Funds To Improve Levees In Northern California, Help Boost State's Economy

2/6/2008 - In Natomas, Governor Schwarzenegger highlighted actions the state is taking to improve California's flood protection system. The announcement includes \$211 million in Proposition 1E funding for four critical levee improvement and construction projects in three counties, including \$49 million for the Natomas Levee Improvement Program in Sacramento County. The infrastructure bond investments will not only boost public safety by improving flood protection, but they will also help boost the state's economy by creating jobs and putting Californians to work.

For more information on the Governor's continued commitment to rebuilding California visit: .

The Governor is taking immediate action to improve flood protection in California. This \$211 million investment will help rebuild California's aging levee system and protect Californians from dangerous floods that could harm communities, agriculture and water supplies.

- *Bond funds will be used to fund four critical flood protection projects.* The California Department of Water Resources (DWR) is ready to fund four high priority early implementation projects with Proposition 1E funds. These are projects currently under construction or ready to go this year that are dependent on state funding. Projects include:
 - Sacramento Area Flood Control Agency, Natomas Levee Improvement Program (Sacramento County) \$49 million.
 - Levee District No. 1 of Sutter County, Lower Feather River Setback Levee at Star Bend (Sutter County) \$16.3 million.
 - Reclamation District 2103 (Wheatland), Bear River North Levee Rehabilitation Project (Yuba County) \$7.4 million.
 - Three Rivers Levee Improvement Authority, Feather River Setback Levee (Yuba County) \$138.5 million.
- *Today's action builds on the Governor's commitment to strengthening California's flood control system.* The Governor:
 - Sent a letter to President Bush today urging him to increase federal flood protection funding for California in his new budget and help streamline the process to approve projects.
 - Signed legislation in October 2007 that will lead to the development of a comprehensive Central Valley Flood Protection Plan, reform the Reclamation Board to improve efficiency, require cities and counties to increase consideration of flood risks when making land use decisions and create a new standard in flood protection for urban development.
 - Signed AB 140, the \$4 billion levee repair and flood control bond element of the Strategic Growth Plan approved by voters in November 2006, and signed AB 142 that appropriated \$500 million from the general fund to the Department of Water Resources for levee evaluation and repair.
 - Declared a State of Emergency in February 2006 for California's levee system and ordered DWR

to develop a plan to begin immediate repairs to prevent catastrophic flooding and loss of life. As a result, and with funding from AB 142 and Proposition 1E, 102 of the most vulnerable levee sites in Northern California have been repaired.

- *The Governor will continue to push for action to fast track other flood control projects.* Of the almost \$5 billion in Proposition 1E and 84 funding passed by voters in 2006 for flood protection, more than \$3 billion has not yet been allocated.

Rebuilding California is a key component of the Governor's overall economic development strategy for the state. The Governor is committed to boosting economic growth, enhancing our environment, improving service for citizens and increasing value for taxpayers by improving the pace of delivery, improving operation and maintenance, and lowering the cost and risk of California's infrastructure. In the last month, the Governor has:

- Committed to working with the legislature, labor and environmental leaders, builders, engineers and cabinet officials to find ways to overcome statutory and regulatory barriers to fast track the \$29 billion in unallocated 2006 infrastructure bond funding.
- Joined Pennsylvania Governor Rendell and New York City Mayor Bloomberg to reinvigorate federal investment in the nation's infrastructure by creating the "Building America's Future" coalition.
- Proposed as part of his State of the State speech that California pursue the broad use of Performance Based Infrastructure (PBI), establish the Strategic Growth Council to promote economic, sustainable growth and development and meet the state's skilled workforce demands with 20,000 new engineers over the next decade.
- Called for additional investment in water, education and court infrastructure as part of California's Strategic Growth Plan.

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